GOD SERVES THE BREAD IN HIS WISDOM

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I Am the Bread of Life

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come to ()

A special welcome to our guests and visitors and thank you for joining us!

We at St. Paul's share a common belief that Jesus is our Savior from sin and is the Lord of our lives. Our faith is based on God's Word, which is revealed in the Bible. We want to share this great news with as many people as possible, because we know that Jesus lived, died, and rose from death to save all people!

We offer Communion on the 2nd and 4th Sundays/Mondays of each month. God says that Communion is an expression of unity (1 Cor.10:16-17), so we practice close communion. Those who have explored and established unity with us on the basis of God's Word are invited up to the Lord's Table. Please speak to a pastor if you have questions about our practice.

FAMILIES WITH SMALL CHILDREN

There are changing tables located in BOTH the women's and men's school bathrooms near the school. There are children's quiet bags in the narthex. If you use one, please make sure to put it back. Please reserve the back few pews for families with small children. We have a nursery room located just off the narthex. There is a speaker in there so you can still hear and take part in the worship service. Please feel free to use this room for your child(ren), including a place to nurse.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (The WELS) and was founded in 1862. We have our Lutheran elementary school (3K-grade 8) on site and are part of a federation of churches to support our own high school, Manitowoc Lutheran High School.

Worship Focus: The Bread of Life gives wisdom and life. Jesus overcomes the crowd's reluctance to see him as the heavenly gift-giver because of his humanity. He makes clear that the only way to receive those gifts is through the work of God drawing them. This spiritual food that Jesus describes is something no one finds appealing at first...but distasteful. And so today Jesus explains that we need God to work within us, so that we have the wisdom to see that this food gives life and the faith to find this bread most delicious. God has given us the Bread of Life...understanding this calls for the wisdom only the Triune God can give.

Speak, O Lord CW 633

Hymn Appreciation: Keith Getty is one of the most prolific hymn writers working today. Speak, O Lord is one of his best. This hymn stresses three core truths that much of modern Christianity is missing. First...purpose and meaning in this life is only achieved when one listens to the voice of God. "Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds. Help us grasp the heights of your plans for us." Secondly...the voice of God is only heard through the Word. "Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to receive the food of your Holy Word." Thirdly...the truths of God's Word don't change according to the times. Truth is truth. "Truths unchanged from the dawn of time that will echo down through eternity."

The hymn is a modern masterpiece that couples a meaningful message to touch your head...carried in a glorious, flowing melody that touches your heart.



Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Wisdom has built her house;

She has set up her seven pillars.

She calls out from the highest places of the city,

"Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. Leave your simple ways and live, and walk in the way of insight."

Proverbs 9:1,3,5-6

We speak wisdom among those who are mature,

Yet not the wisdom of this age, but the hidden wisdom of God, revealed to us by the Spirit.

The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.

We have received the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things freely given to us by God.

1 Corinthians 2:6-7,10,12

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me shall not hunger, **And whoever believes in me shall never thirst."**

"Everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, **And I will raise him up on the last day."**John 6:35,40

Confession and Absolution

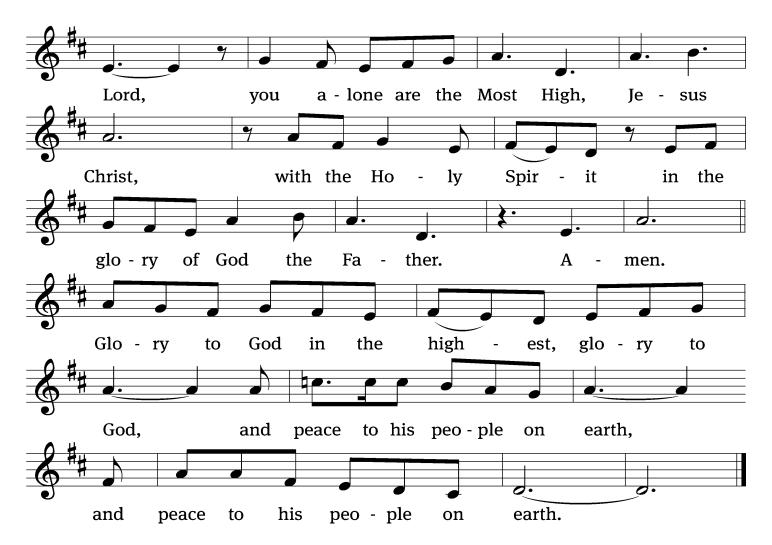
Let us confess our sins to God our Father, who invites us to the banquet of wisdom and offers us the Bread of Life.

Almighty God, we confess that we have sought the wisdom of this world instead of your wisdom. We have feasted on the empty promises of this age and neglected the Bread of Life. We have turned away from your call to walk in the way of insight. Forgive us, Lord, for our foolishness and for our lack of faith. Cleanse us by your Spirit, and renew us in your grace. Lead us to embrace the wisdom of your Word, and to trust in the lifegiving promises of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for you, and for his sake forgives you all your sins. Jesus, the Bread of Life, has come down from heaven to give life to the world. Whoever comes to him will never hunger, and whoever believes in him will never thirst. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ, and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.





THE WORD

Salutation

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Gracious Father, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Grant that Christ, the bread of life, may live in us and we in him, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

Affirmation of Baptism [10:30a service]

Charlee Whitney Wallander son of Gavin and Nicole Wallander

First Reading

Proverbs 9:1-6

Wisdom invites us to "come, eat [her] bread and drink the wine [she has] mixed" (verse 5). Here in her house, she has prepared a meal of the Bread of Life...which is none other than Jesus.

¹Wisdom has built her house; she has set up its seven pillars.

²She has prepared her meat and mixed her wine; she has also set her table.

³She has sent out her servants, and she calls from the highest point of the city, ⁴"Let all who are simple come to my house!"

To those who have no sense she says,

5"Come, eat my food and drink the wine I have mixed.

⁶Leave your simple ways and you will live; walk in the way of insight."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

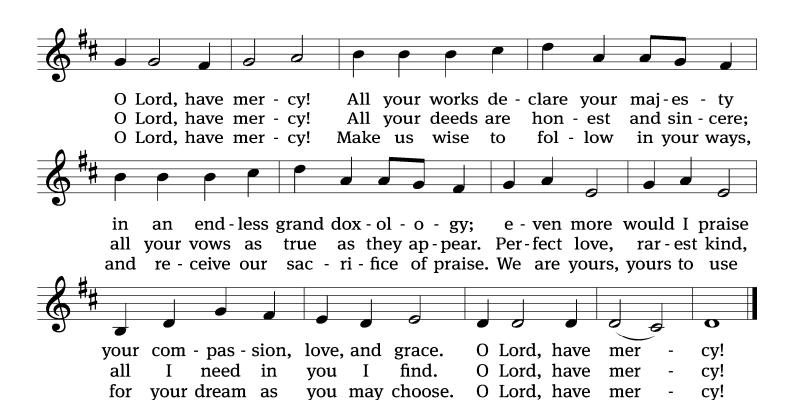
Psalm of the Day

Psalm 111a

The Church sings this psalm in services where Christians marvel at God's gracious salvation. Paired with Psalm 112...it is a short acrostic and introduces a section that concludes with the long acrostic Psalm 119.

Soloist will sing verse 1





Second Reading

1 Corinthians 2:6–16

No human religion has ever come up with the gospel: that God in his incredible love and mercy toward sinful human beings sacrificed his Son as payment for all sins. This wisdom of God must be revealed to us by the Holy Spirit.

⁶We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. ⁷No, we declare God's wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹However, as it is written:

"What no eye has seen,
what no ear has heard,
and what no human mind has conceived"—
the things God has prepared for those who love him—
10these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit.

The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. ¹¹For who knows a person's thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. ¹²What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us. ¹³This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words. ¹⁴The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are

discerned only through the Spirit. ¹⁵The person with the Spirit makes judgments about all things, but such a person is not subject to merely human judgments, ¹⁶for,

"Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?"

But we have the mind of Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem Train Up a Child

Sung by Festival Choir

Train up a child in the way that he should go that he will never depart.

Train up a child in the way and she will grow with the Word in her heart.

Refrain: Feed them truth, guide the way, teach them promises God has made. That they may live in God's love and grace.

Train up a child as you teach him right from wrong as he follows the Word.

Train up a child as you lead her to be strong, be strong in the Lord. Refrain

Many voices call, many things may draw them far away. Though their paths may go far away from home, the Word shall remain - The Word will remain in their hearts.

Train up a child your rewards will go beyond the days you live. Raise them in love generations will be blessed by the love that you give. *Refrain*

Stand

Gospel *John 6:35–51*

The crowd struggles with the implications of Jesus calling himself the Bread of Life...bread that satisfies eternally. They didn't get it. They had seen him but hadn't believed (verse 36). They hadn't eaten this Bread of Life. This bread gives true wisdom. Receiving this Bread of Life is faith...and the result is eternal life.

³⁵Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. ³⁶But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe. ³⁷All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. ³⁸For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. ³⁹And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. ⁴⁰For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day."

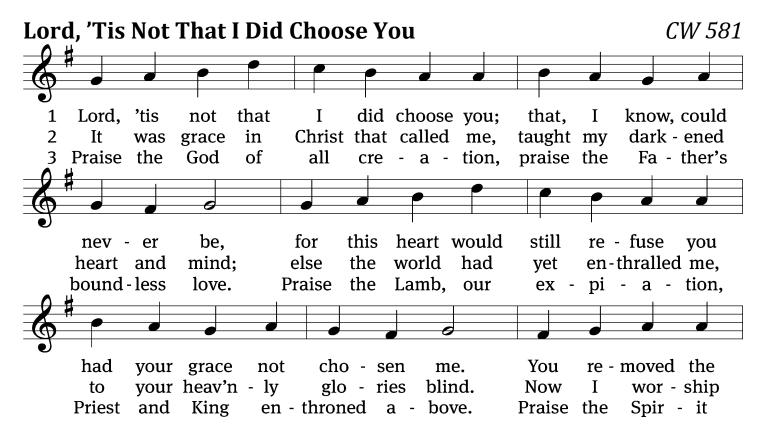
⁴¹At this the Jews there began to grumble about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." ⁴²They said, "Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I came down from heaven'?"

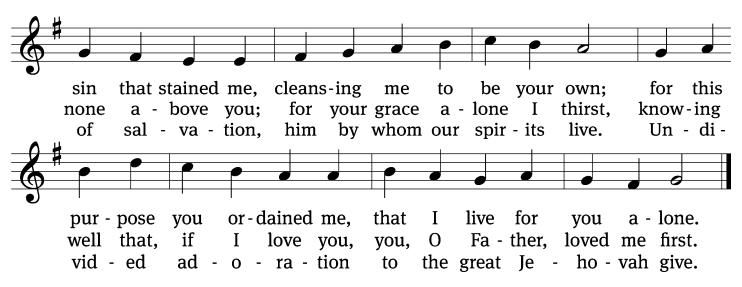
⁴³"Stop grumbling among yourselves," Jesus answered. ⁴⁴"No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them, and I will raise them up at the last day. ⁴⁵It is written in the Prophets: 'They will all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard the Father and learned from him comes to me. ⁴⁶No one has seen the Father except the one who is from God; only he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷Very truly I tell you, the one who believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, yet they died. ⁵⁰But here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which anyone may eat and not die. ⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated





Sermon *John 6:35–51*

"Stop Grumbling about Life"

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Installation of School Faculty [10:30a service]

Prayer of the Church

Loving God and Lord, you created the universe that surrounds us and the globe on which we live. You control all things through your Son, who sits at your right hand in glory.

Comfort us with the promise of your eternal presence.

Give your Word power as it works in our hearts and minds. Clear away our confusion, and demolish our doubts. Send your Spirit to strengthen both our confidence in your promises and our desire to live according to your will.

Take away our love of sinning, and restore us each day by your grace.

The signs of the times warn us that the end of time is near. Protect us from scoffers who sneer at your truth. Spare us and Christians around the world from all forms of hate and persecution.

Give us courage to carry the cross with patience and joy.

Instill in the hearts of our children a desire to follow you as they prepare for future days. Help them distinguish between what is passing and what is eternal, between instant thrills and lasting joy. Encourage more young people to prepare for service in the public ministry of the gospel.

Mold us and move us to be good examples for our youth.

Hold in your care, Lord, those who are experiencing physical or emotional pain and all who are afflicted by disease or facing death. Pour out your compassion on the grieving, and comfort the mourners who miss someone they loved.

Move us to pray for these brothers and sisters and to help when we can.

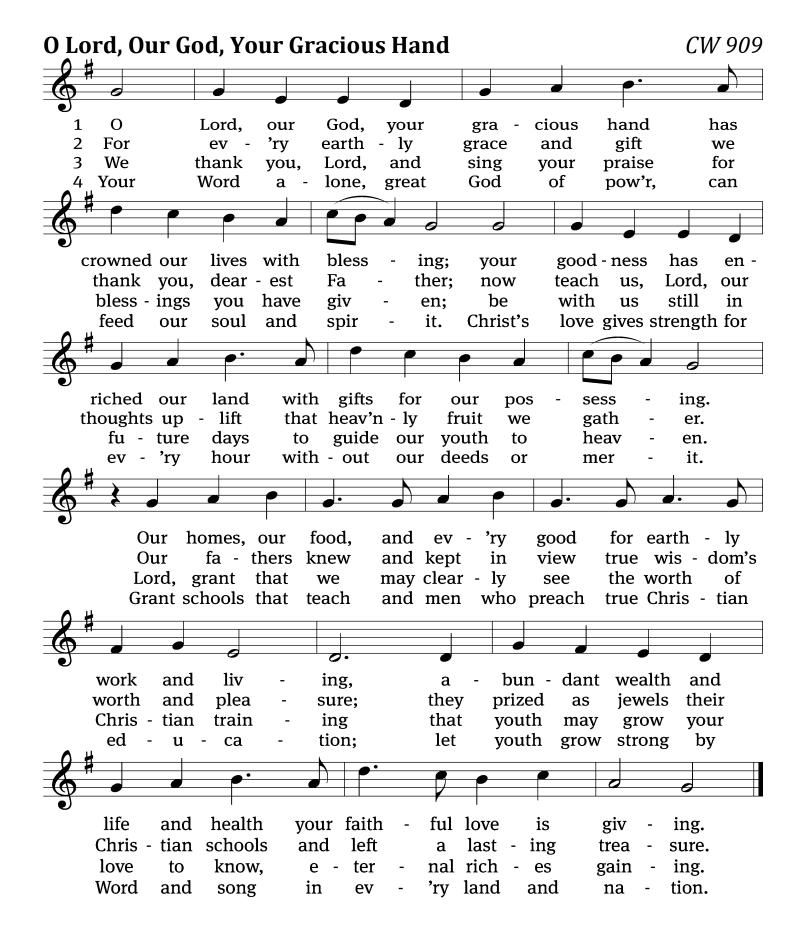
Special intercessions

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Whether we pray together or alone, you have promised to hear and answer us. Give us patience to accept your blessings in whatever way you send them. In your love and wisdom, prepare us for the day when you will take us to be with you forever.

Hear us for Jesus' sake. Amen.



Prayer

Amen.

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Blessing

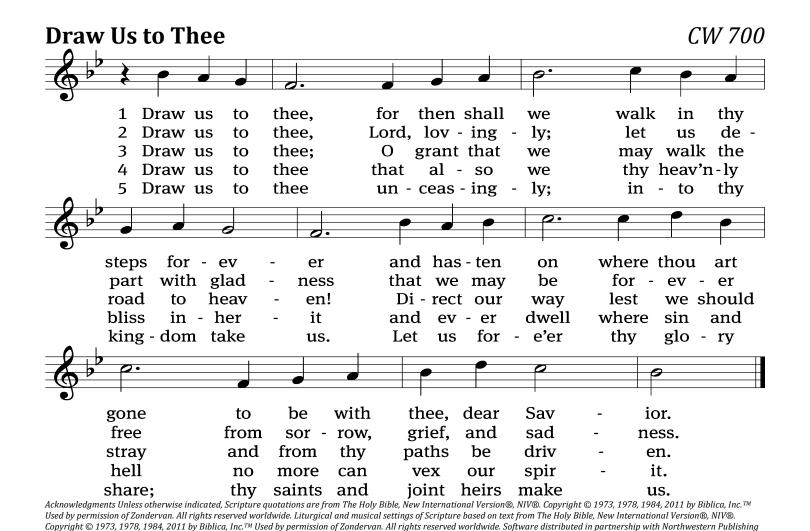
The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

Be seated



If you are visiting us today or would like to update your information, please scan the OR code to fill out our form.



SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:

House. Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.

Presiding Minister and Preacher: Pastor Brian Pechman

SERVICE ACCOMPANIST: Gillian Curia

Musicians: Pastor Adam Bode, Tori Engel, Stan Grzonka, Greg Johnson, Nikki Leahy, Renee

Mueller, Nick & Tanya Schmidt, and Sue Vant Hul

ALTAR GUILD: Sandra Weber, Karen Beining, Debbie Van Alstine.

USHERS: 8:00a.m.- Ed Strauss, Clark Kleinhans, Dale Bramstedt, Keith Leistekow.

10:30a.m. - Ted Goedeke, Eric Eickhoff, Zach Marten. 6:00 p.m. -???.

Online giving options available

In thanks to our gracious Lord and his gift of forgiveness in Jesus, we bring to him a generous portion of all we have received from him. Offerings for the Lord's work may be placed in one of the designated boxes in the narthex today. They may also be mailed in, dropped off in the office, or given online.



OFFERINGS: 8/11 & 8/12 - \$13,250 (NEEDED EACH WEEK \$19,600). \$250 - FAITH FOR THE FUTURE. ATTENDANCE: <math>8/11 & 8/12 - 8:00 A.M. -136.10:30 A.M. -154.6:00 P.M. -46.

In our prayers this week...

- 1. St. Paul's Lutheran School, starting classes this week.
- 2. Our other Lutheran schools starting the year this week: Manitowoc Lutheran High School, Winnebago Lutheran Academy, Luther Prep School, Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary.
- 3. Marion Hoard, celebrating her 97th birthday on Sunday!

This Week at a Glance:	
Date	Service, Bible Study, and Meeting Times
Sunday, August 18	8:00a & 10:30a Worship Services
	9:20a-10:10a Family Bible Hour
Monday, August 19	6:00p Monday Night Worship
Tuesday, August 20	9:00a-1:00p Office Open
Wednesday, August 21	6:30p School Board
	6:30p Officers
Thursday, August 22	8:20a School Opening Service
	8:00a-3:45p School Year Office Hours Resume
Friday, August 23	8:00a-3:45p Office Open
Sunday, August 25	8:00a & 10:30a Worship Services
	9:20a-10:10a Family Bible Hour
Monday, August 26	6:00p Monday Night Worship

Grow with Christ

Bible Studies, Worship, and more!

- 1. Bible Class Today: We are in summer Bible study mode. We invite adults, teens, and children down to 3rd grade to join us for study. This weekend, we will look at Article X of the *Formula of Concord*, which focuses on Adiaphora. These are things that we do as a church or as Christians that God's Word does not say are good or bad in themselves: things like when we worship, what we wear, what we eat, what kinds of traditions we practice. If God doesn't tell us exactly what to do, are we free to do it? Or are there other important considerations? Come and learn more in the Harvest Room between services this morning.
- 2. Child Care: During Bible study, parents attending Bible class are welcome to let their children (2nd grade and younger) play in the Garden Gym, which will be supervised by volunteers.
- 3. St. Paul's Lutheran School: St. Paul's begins the 2024-25 school year this week! We ask for the Lord to bless the teachers and staff, students and families as we all work together to carry out St. Paul's mission: "Partnering with parents in our congregation and community to shine Christ's light on children's lives". Below is the staff and board of our school:
 - Principal | 7th-8th Grade: Michael Wieting
 - *Elementary:* Dawn Johnson (1st grade), Deb Doletsky (2nd grade), Jennifer Hacker (3th-4th grade), and Andrew Dais (5th-6th grade).
 - Early Childhood: Molly Meitner (kindergarten), Emily Panzer (4 year-old teacher), MeLissa Wieting (3 year-old teacher/director), Mary Grunewald (teacher aide | before care), Mike Heilman (before care), Bonnie Dais (teacher aide), Mike Leahy (teacher aide), Jenny Walleser (teacher aide), Amanda Miller (teacher aide), Megan Fibiger (nap room), Charmain Voigt (teacher aide).
 - Support Staff: Rev. Norv Kock (principal release teacher), Greg Johnson (administrative vice-principal), Erin Radue (office), Kelly Wall (hot lunch coordinator), Audrey Kolosovsky (aftercare), Amy Schleis (resource teacher),
 - School Board: Dan Radue (chairman), Fred Pahmeier, Justin Radue, Nick Schmidt, and Zach Theobald
- 4. Catechism Orientation: Parents and young adults in grades 6th, 7th, and 8th are asked to attend a Catechism orientation meeting Tuesday, August 27th @ 6:30p. We will be meeting in the Harvest Room. The purpose of this meeting is to introduce you to St. Paul's catechism curriculum for the upcoming year, walk you through how the program works, and answer some frequently asked questions. If you have any additional questions, please be in touch with Pastor Pechman.

5. Sunday School Registration: Sunday School for the fall kicks off on September 8th!

It will be held each Sunday from 9:15-10:15a. The theme for this year is "The Lord is our Salvation!" We are now enrolling students from 8th grade down to potty trained 3-year-olds. To help us prepare materials and teaching staff, please use the QR code here or click on the link on our website to register. If you would like to invite a neighbor or friend, feel free to grab a couple fliers from the



6. Seeking Jesus Women's Retreat: Join us on Saturday, October 19th for our Seeking Jesus Women's Retreat from 8:30a-4:00p. This full-day retreat includes an opening devotion, two keynote speakers, breakout sessions, beautiful music, fellowship and lunch. We hope you can join us for an enriching day, getting to know other women and growing in God's Word together. Registration fee is \$35. You may register with the QR Code below, you will also find paper registration forms in the member room. If you have questions please speak with Lisa Marten, Amanda Bode or Renee Mueller.

Keynote Sessions:

member room.

Amber Albee Swenson "It's Getting Noisy in Here" Naomi Schmidt "Listening and Living at Jesus' Feet"

Breakout Sessions: choose 2

Amber Albee Swenson "Seeking Jesus in a Noisy World" Naomi Schmidt "The Impact of Jesus"

Anna Wallander "How God Wants Us to Love Our Temple"

Andrea Fischer "Navigating Mental & Emotional Wellness as a Christian"

Announcements & News

1. Church Picnic: We're hoping you can enjoy some food, fellowship, and fun with your St. Paul's family today from 11:30a-2:00p.

Bring your family and friends to enjoy a festive atmosphere filled with the rich flavors and sounds of Germany: bier, wein, kraut, wurst, etc. A prize will be given for the most festive German attire, so dress the part! There will be fun for the whole family!

Does your Oma have an amazing German potato salad recipe? Prove it, and make her proud! We're looking for German potato salads and beverages. Thanks for considering if you're able to bring something to share.

Cost: Free-will offering basket.

2. MLHS "Sweet Corn Fest" – This annual event is coming soon. The corn will be picked and ready for our congregation August 25th. So we know how much to pick, please sign up in the member room by August 19th. On Saturday, August 24th, we will need a few helpers to travel to the farm in Morrison to pick the corn. We will leave St. Paul's about 8:00a and should be back by 10:00a. If you are able to help, contact Jim Van Alstine. (920.889.1225) To date, the MLHS Academic Voucher Committee has awarded 2056 vouchers to students in grades 5-8 that participate in the MLHS Academic Fair. Each voucher is worth \$200 of tuition to Manitowoc Lutheran High School. This program has been around for over 15 years and much of the just over \$250,000 that has been awarded has been raised through the "Sweet Corn Fest" each summer. Thanks for your support in the past and we hope you can participate in this great program again this year!